

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Confirmation No. 8992

Kazuhiro MACHIGUCHI et al.

Docket No. 2003 1587A

Serial No. 10/397,875

Group Art Unit 1752

Filed October 31, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form.

A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or

(2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

[] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

1c.

- a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. [] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
- 6. [X] Reference List:
 - 1. U.S. 4,808,501
 - 2. U.S. 2002/0034697 A2 (This reference corresponds to JP 2002-14220 A, which is cited in the specification)
 - 3. U.S. 2002/0045111 A1 (This reference corresponds to JP 2002-14221 A, which is cited in the specification)
 - 4. U.S. 2002/0042008 A1 (This reference corresponds to JP 2002-14222 A, which is cited in the specification)

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhiro MACHIGUCHI et al.

By Winder Jan

Matthew M. Jacob

Registration No. 25,154

Attorney for Applicants

MJ/da Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 February 10, 2004

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LIST OF	REFEREN	NCES CITED BY APPLICAN eral sheets if necessary)	Kazuhiro MACHIGUCHI et al.							
Date S	Submitted	d to PTO: February 10, 20	October 31, 2003			GROUP 1752				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME CLAS		\ss	SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	AA	4,808,501	2/1989	(Chiulli					
	AB	2002/0034697 A1	3/2002	Machi	guchi et al.					
	AC	2002/0045111 A1	4/2002	Machi	guchi et al.					
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